

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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November 21, 2019

JMD, Inc.
P.O. Box 2639
Gulfport, MS 39505

Re: JMD, Inc.
WGCM(AM), Gulfport, MS
Facility Identification Number: 31216
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed November 7, 2019, on behalf of JMD, Inc. ("JMD"). JMD requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WGCM(AM) with parameters at variance from its license.¹

Specifically, AM station WROA(AM) holds a construction permit to diplex on the WGCM(AM) tower. The WGCM(AM) licensed operation uses an above ground, four radial, elevated ground system. However, in order to diplex the two stations, a ground system of 120 equally spaced, buried, copper radials, 60.5 meters in length is required. Therefore, due to changes in the tower base impedance associated with installation of the diplex system and the need for the installation of a new ground system, WGCM(AM) requests operation with parameters at variance.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WGCM(AM) may operate daytime and nighttime with parameters at variance. It is noted that WGCM(AM) will need to file a 301 application for the new ground system. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. WGCM(AM) must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored.² WGCM(AM) must use whatever means are necessary to protect workers and the public from exposure to radio frequency radiation in excess of the Commission's exposure guidelines. *See* 47 CFR § 1.1310.

This authority expires on **May 20, 2020**.

¹ WGCM(AM) is licensed for operation on 1240 kHz with a daytime and nighttime power of 1 kilowatt, employing a non-directional antenna pattern (ND1-U).

² *See* 47 CFR §§ 73.45(c), 73.51, 73.61(b).

STA Advisory: Section 309(f) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, authorizes the Commission to grant STA in cases of "extraordinary circumstances requiring temporary authorizations in the public interest and when delay in the institution of the temporary operations would seriously prejudice the public interest." However, Section 309(f) is not a means by which a licensee/permittee may circumvent established processing procedures which require the filing of an application, nor is it a means by which a broadcaster may enhance his facility or make operation more convenient for the broadcaster. Stations operating with less than licensed facilities under temporary authorities can be viewed as receiving the benefit of a larger protection area than that in which they are currently providing service.

Accordingly, Special Temporary Authorities by nature are to be temporary and are not intended for extended use. Licensees of stations operating under temporary authorities are reminded that timely restoration of permanent facilities is the responsibility of the licensee and should be undertaken expeditiously. Any request for extension of special temporary authorities carries an increased burden with each subsequent request.

Therefore, requests for extension of STA will be granted only where the licensee can show that one or more of the following criteria have been met:

- Restoration of licensed facilities is complete and testing is underway;
- Substantial progress has been made during the most recent STA period toward restoration of licensed operation; or
- No progress has been made during the most recent STA period for reasons clearly beyond the licensee's control, and the licensee has taken all possible steps to expeditiously resolve the problem.

Sincerely,



Jerome J. Manarchuck
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: John C. Trent, Esq. (via email only)